(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the percentage of projects under construction decided to be completed under the said system so far;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sanction procedure being adopted, so far, for the approval of road construction projects has been relaxed under the said system; and

(d) if so, the details of the relaxations and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Committee on Infrastructure (COL) has approved various phases under enhanced scope of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) involving a total estimated expenditure of Rs. 2,20,000 crore at 01.01.2006 prices. Most of these projects are envisaged to be implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP).

(c) and (d) As per existing procedure, prior approval of Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) is required before bidding for projects.

Cost of road construction under NHDP-II

†4673. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of road construction in the schemes of second phase under National Highways Development Programme had been estimated at Rs. 4 crore per kilometer;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and when this cost of construction was estimated;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above cost of construction is likely to be increased now; and

(d) if so, the cost of construction at present?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The average cost per km for Phase-II of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) was approved at Rs. 4.75 crore for upgradation to 4-lane for flexible pavement and Rs. 6.45 crore per km for rigid pavement at 2002 prices. However the cost as considered in the Financing Plan for NHDP Phase-II, approved by Committee on Infrastructure, is now Rs. 6.52 crore per km at 2006 prices.

(c) and (d) The awarded contracts for NHDP Phase-II provide for price escalation and therefore, final cost of construction can be assessed only after completion of the project.

National Highways in Rajasthan

4674. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways in Rajasthan have been badly damaged due to heavy rains in the year 2006;

(b) if so, the details of damage, National Highway-wise; and

(c) whether Government of Rajasthan have submitted proposals for allotment of funds for immediate and permanent restoration of damaged NHs in Rajasthan and if so, the amount of proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Due to the unprecedented rains during the year 2006-07 in western & southern districts of Rajasthan, there were breaches at some locations of Jaisalmer-Barmer-section of National Highway (NH) 15 and submergence due to flood water near village Kawas on NH.-112. Two major bridges on NH 14 were partially washed away. There were also surface damages to the pavement in the form of potholes, patches etc. and minor damages to CD works mainly on NH 12, 14, 15, 65, 79, 90, 112 and 113.

(c) Yes, Sir. In 2006-07, Chief Engineer (NH) has submitted estimates amounting to Rs. 130.65 crore for immediate and permanent restoration of damages.